CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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A method for replicating data of a primary database system, comprising the steps of: maintaining a buffer of transactions to be sent to a standby database system; and synchronizing a transaction performed on the primary database system based on a number of transactions in the buffer and a predetermined number of transactions.

- 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of synchronizing includes the step of: blocking a commit of the transaction until the number of transactions in the buffers is in a predetermined numerical relationship with the predetermined number of transactions.
- 3. A method according to claim 2, wherein: the predetermined numerical relationship is less than.
- 4. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: executing a log writer process to record the transaction in a redo log.
- 5. A method according to claim 4, wherein: the log writer process performs the step of synchronizing.
- 6. A method according to claim 4, wherein:
- a database application process performs the step of synchronizing before submitting the transaction to the log writer process.

A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
executing a net server process to:
transmit the transaction over a network connection to the standby database system,

receive an acknowledgment that a redo record for the transaction has been written to a standby log at the standby database system, and

remove the transaction from the buffer in response to the acknowledgment.

- 8. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: receiving input from an operator indicating a transaction loss bound; and setting the predetermined number of transactions based on the transaction loss bound.
- 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of synchronizing includes the steps: storing a counter indicating a number of the transactions in the buffer; when adding the transaction to the buffer, incrementing the counter; when removing the transaction from the buffer, decrementing the counter; blocking a commit of the transaction when the counter is not less than the predetermined number of transactions; and acknowledging the commit of the transaction when the counter is less than the predetermined number of transactions.
- 10. A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for causing one or more processors to performs the steps of the method according to claim 1.
 - 11. A method for replicating data of a primary database system, comprising the steps of: maintaining a queue of transactions to be sent to a standby database system; storing a counter indicating a number of the transactions in the queue; storing a predetermined bound of transactions; executing a log writer process to:

record the transaction in a redo log,

compare the counter and the predetermined bound,

- if the counter is not less than the predetermined bound, then block a commit of the transaction until the counter is less than the predetermined bound, and
- if the counter is less than the predetermined bound, then increment the counter and acknowledge the commit of the transaction; and

executing a net erver process to:

transmit the transaction over a network connection to the standby database system,

- receive an acknowledgment that a redo record for the transaction has been written to a standby log at the standby database system, and
- in response to the acknowledgment, remove the transaction from the queue and decrement the counter.
- 12. A method for operating a log writer process to replicate data of a primary database system, comprising the steps of:

recording a transaction in a redo log;

- comparing a counter indicating a number of the transactions in a queue of transactions to be sent to a standby database system and a predetermined bound of transactions;
- if the counter is not less than the predetermined bound, then blocking a commit of the transaction until the counter is less than the predetermined bound, and
- if the counter is less than the predetermined bound, then incrementing the counter and acknowledging the commit of the transaction.
- 13. A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for causing one or more processors to perform the steps of the method according to claim 12.

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14. A method for operating a net server process to replicate data of a primary database system comprising the steps of:

accessing a transaction maintained in a buffer of transactions to be sent to a standby database system;

transmitting the transaction over a network connection to the standby database system;

receiving an acknowledgment that a redo record for the transaction has been written to a standby log at the standby database system, and

in response to the acknowledgment, removing the transaction from the queue and decrementing the counter.

- 15. A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for causing one or more processors to perform the steps of the method according to claim 14.
- 16. A method for replicating data in a primary database system having multiple database servers operating in parallel and accessing a common database on a shared disk, said method comprising the steps of:

setting a bound for each of the multiple database servers;

for each of the multiple database servers, performing the steps of:

maintaining a buffer of transactions to be sent to a standby database system; and synchronizing a transaction performed on the primary database system based on a number of transactions in the buffer and the corresponding bound.